

MLK Elementary School PTO December 2010 Newsletter

Join us for an evening filled with music, food and fun!

MLK PTO Winter Music Festival Wednesday, December 8, 6-7:30pm

Recorder Musical Selections by MLK students - Directed by Mr. Del Negro
Open Mic: Bring your favorite Holiday poem to read!

Pizza will be served. Please bring your favorite dessert to share.



News and Updates from the PTO . . .

MLK Elementary Open Houses!

Help us let friends and neighbors know about King's upcoming tours/open houses! We invite families to join us for a tour with current parents and students and a school overview with Principal Derrick Ciesla. Tours of King will be offered on the following dates:

Friday, 12/17, 9:30am

Friday, 1/7, 9:30am

Friday, 1/21, 9:30am

Friday, 2/4, 9:30am

Tuesday, 2/15, 6:30pm

Friday, 3/4, 9:30am

Friday, 3/18, 9:30am

Interested families should call the King's office at 401-345-2464 to register for a tour.

We are also looking for current King family members who are interested in leading a tour! You will need an hour and a half free,

and if you have not yet led a tour, we'll provide training and support. If you'd like to lead one tour (or more!) please contact PTO member Jill Davidson at 401-345-2464 or jill.davidson@gmail.com.

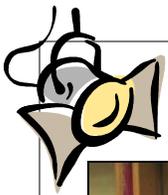
Parent-Teacher Communication

There was such a great turnout for Parent Teach Conferences last month! Remember, you can communicate with MLK faculty about your child's progress all year long. To schedule a meeting, call the main office to leave a message for your child's teacher, or send a note in your child's backpack.

Calendar



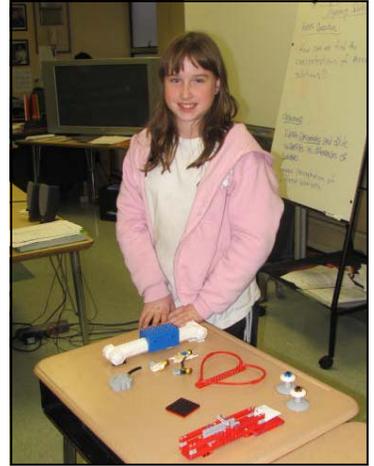
Dec. 8	Winter Music Festival
Dec. 24-31	Holiday Break
Jan. 3	Back to School!
Jan. 12	International Night
Jan. 17-18	No School – MLK Holiday and Teacher Development



Spotlight: Lego Robotics Club



On Tuesday afternoons, fifth grade teacher, David Baxter, has been teaching some fifth grade students how to create robots with Legos! The students have been building powered robots with very special Lego kits. Students must follow the very detailed instructions to build the robots and be careful not to lose any of the tiny pieces. Once created, the robots will be placed on a table top with a specially designed course of the human body and the students will be able to see how their individual robots work together!



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Principal's Page: From the Desk of Mr. Ciesla

Greetings, I hope everyone had a fabulous Thanksgiving. As we head into the holiday season, MLK is bustling with activity. For starters, Ms. Ming Shen, one of our first grade teachers will coordinate a family literacy program called "Mommy and Me" for families at Martin Luther King. With a donation from Smart Test, Inc., a small non-profit organization comprised of current classroom teachers from different districts in Rhode Island, "Mommy and Me" hopes to provide adequate training and encouragement to parents to be involved in their children's education. They will use the participatory approach, which acknowledges family strengths, investigates with students' family contexts for literacy usage, attitudes and practices, and explores with parents possibilities for a life change. It will be offered once a week for 8-10 weeks.

Also, "Family Math" is a program for the same families. Family Math will improve the comfort zone between parents and their children to share math experiences. Participants will work together to find solutions to games, puzzles, and problems of a mathe-

tical nature, which will help families rediscover the fun and excitement in making mathematics discoveries together. It will help to bridge the gap between home and school. It will go far in building confidence in mathematics for both parents and their children. It will be offered once a week for 8-10 weeks.

In addition, Johnson and Wales University will be working with our third grade students once a week. Our partners will be providing tutoring to students in mathematics. All programs will begin after the New Year.

Finally, we still also have plenty of room in the following enrichment programs: Chinese afterschool program (grades 2-5), Guitar afterschool program (grades 3-4), Lego Robotics (grades 4 and 5), and Tai Chi for MLK parents and friends.

Please contact the main office at 456-9398 with any questions.

School Contact Information:

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